

Little Creek Restoration Team wins international naval award

The Federal Facilities Restoration Team for the Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek has received the Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Award for 2008. This international award was presented to the team by Adm. Gary Roughead at the Naval Memorial in Washington, D.C., on May 28, 2009.

DEQ's Paul Herman is an active member of the Little Creek Restoration Team. The award was given based on the fast-track cleanup efforts and the use of innovative technologies by the partnering team.

When the base was placed on the National Priorities List in 1999, 10 sites were identified as requiring investigation and potential cleanup action. Three sites now remain under investigation. Remedial actions have been implemented, are under construction, or the response is complete for the remaining seven sites.

At one site a technology called "enhanced reductive dechlorination," a form of bioremediation in which material is physically injected into the ground water, was used to treat ground water near a former laundry and dry-cleaning area. The initial injection resulted in a decrease by more than 50 percent of chlorinated contaminants in the ground water. The partnering team then decided to complete another injection to achieve the cleanup goal established for the site.

For more information on DEQ's Federal Facilities Restoration Program, please visit www.deq.virginia.gov/waste/federalfacilities.html.